

Serial No. 09/989,707
Amendment Dated February 3, 2004
Reply to Office Action Dated September 9, 2003
Attorney Docket No. K-0346

REMARKS

Claims 1, 2, 4-68, and 70-76 are pending. Claims 14-66 have been allowed, claims 3, 69-73, 75, and 76 are indicated to be allowable, claims 3 and 69 have been canceled, and claims 1, 4, 10, 57, 67, and 70-72 have been amended. Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested for the following reasons.

In the Office Action, claim 3 and 69 were indicated to be allowable if re-written into independent form to recite the features of their base claims. Analogously and for the sole purpose of expediting prosecution, claims 1 and 67 have been amended to recite the subject matter of claims 3 and 69 respectively, and the latter claims have been canceled from the application. In view of these amendments, it is submitted that claims 1 and 67 and their dependent claims are in allowable form.

It is further submitted that all of the outstanding rejections have been rendered moot by the amendments presented herein. Reconsideration and withdrawal of these rejections is therefore respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the entire application is in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration and prompt allowance of the application is respectfully requested.

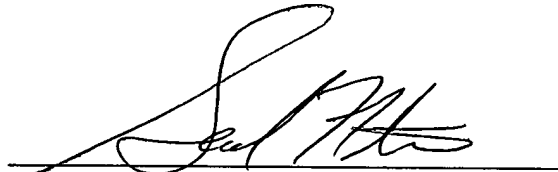
Should the Examiner believe that further amendments are necessary to place the application in condition for allowance, or if the Examiner believes that a personal interview

Serial No. 09/989,707
Amendment Dated February 3, 2004
Reply to Office Action Dated September 9, 2003
Attorney Docket No. K-0346

would be advantageous in order to more expeditiously resolve any remaining issues, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

To the extent necessary, Applicants petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. §1.136. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with this application, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account No. 16-0607 and credit any excess fees to the same Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Daniel Y.J. Kim', is written over a horizontal line.

Daniel Y.J. Kim
Registration No. 36,186

Samuel W. Ntiros
Registration No. 39,318

FLESHNER & KIM, LLP
P.O. Box 221200
Chantilly, Virginia 20153-1200
Telephone No: (703) 766-3701
DYK:SWN/knv